



Space Observer

Friday, July 12, 2002

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

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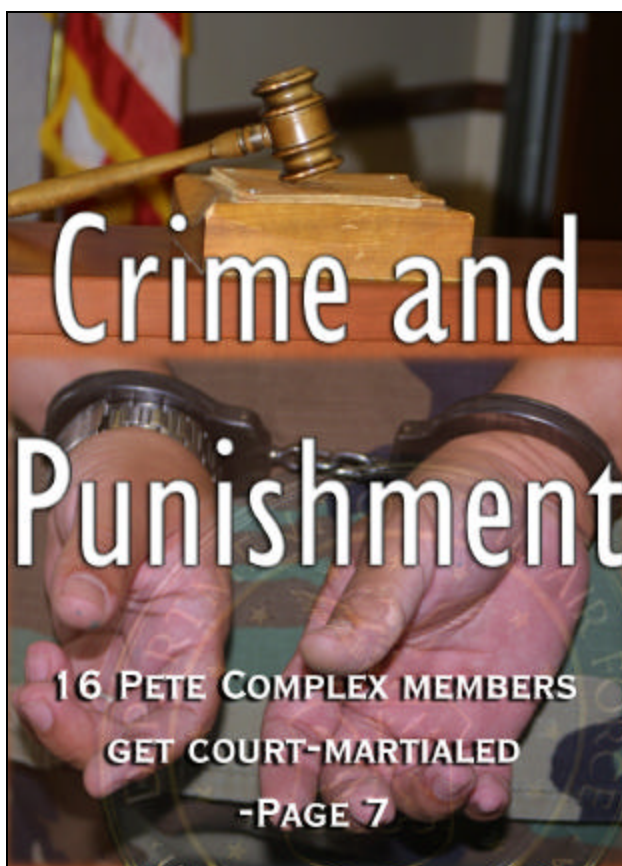


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Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Blotter

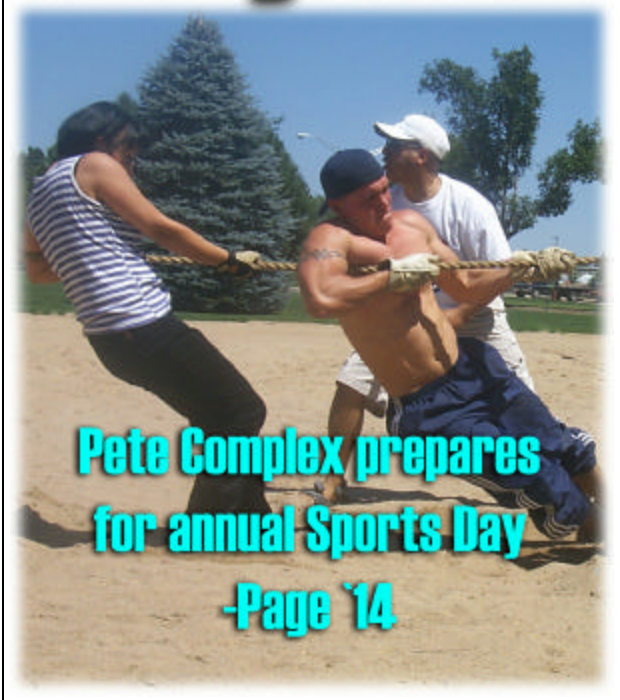
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Why sit on it?

By Brig. Gen. Duane Deal
21st Space Wing Commander

Oodles of psychological and medical studies attest that “holding things in” can markedly impact both you and your work.

From subconsciously affecting the quality of your work to building up stress levels that can degrade you mentally and physically, “sitting on it” can create some not-so-pretty pictures — *so why do it??*

Whether it be financial difficulty ... a workplace human-dignity issue ... an idea for improving processes ... marital or interpersonal challenges ... a customer service problem — **whatever** it is, you have many resources available to help you to address it head-on. If you as an individual, or you as a supervisor, have peo-

ple under you with ideas, complaints, or suggestions, bring ‘em out!

A variety of paths are tailor-made for each input, and include the following:

- The chain of command
- Commanders, flight to wing levels
- Command Chiefs
- First Sergeants
- Chaplains
- The Inspector General
- The Legal Office
- Unit and wing organizations
- Customer comment cards
- The IDEA Program (formerly the Suggestion Program)
- The Commander’s Action Line
- Equal Opportunity office
- Personnel offices

- Life Skills
- The Family Support Center
- Off-base resources

In today’s Air Force — today’s military — it’s imperative that we **not** “sit on it.” From a *personal* standpoint, none of us can afford to deteriorate internally from physical or mental stress, or psychologically from producing products less than representative of our capabilities.

From a *Service* standpoint, force levels are down dramatically from even a decade ago — thus every person’s input becomes that much more important to the very solidity of our Service and our nation.

With that in mind, get those ideas, comments, and suggestions out — why sit on it?

Peterson Air Force Base Notable Numbers

The following base agencies listed below can be connected directly at area code 719:

■ Action Line.....	556-7777
■ Base Exchange.....	596-7270
■ Chaplain.....	556-4442
■ Civil Engineers.....	556-4030
■ Commissary.....	556-7765
■ Dental Clinic.....	556-1333
■ Fire Department (Emergency).....	911
■ Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline.....	556-2100
■ Housing Maintenance.....	556-4455
■ Inspector General complaints.....	556-6309
■ Military/Civilian/Travel Pay.....	556-4770
■ Military Equal Opportunity.....	556-7657/7693
■ Nurse Advice.....	888-887-4111
■ Optometry.....	556-1065
■ Air Force OSI.....	556-4022
■ Public Affairs.....	556-4696
■ Safety Office.....	556-8001
■ Security Forces.....	556-4000
■ Services.....	556-4882
■ Transportation.....	556-4307
■ TRICARE.....	264-5000
■ Base Operator.....	556-7321

Action Line

Submitting Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to the 21st Space Wing Commander—use it wisely!

Try to resolve problems at the lowest level possible—with the person or activity, and then follow the chain of command.

If you can’t get satisfactory results, then call (719) 556-7777. You may also fax your question to 556-7848. Though it’s not required, we ask that you leave your name and phone number so we can get back to you for clarifications, or if your response isn’t printed. However, all calls will be investigated and worked, anonymous or not.

North, West or Main?

QUESTION: Now that we’re back into FPCON Alpha, do we plan to continue using the West Gate as the main entrance to the base, or shift back to the North Gate?

ANSWER: Thanks for asking, for we do intend to use the West Gate as our main entry to the base, and

24-hour entry point.

Using the West Gate enhances our security posture from several aspects (not a straight through shot, easily blockaded if necessary, good area to inspect commercial vehicles, etc.). For your info, we are working with the Colorado Department of Transportation to make the signs on Powers Boulevard and Highway 24 also reflect this change.

In the interim, we have a sign at the North Gate to direct those coming after hours toward the West Gate for entry to Peterson, and the entry controllers also now take the extra step and hand out written directions to those unfamiliar with driving to the West Gate.

A matter of respect

QUESTION: I’m disappointed with those I see who blatantly ignore the national anthem when there are those around them who hear it and render a salute, have their hand over their heart, or stop their cars.

That’s the time of day I like to jog, and I continue to see a few who hear it, but ignore it. Each and every one of them show a lack of integrity, and smack every veteran in the face with their actions.
ANSWER: We couldn’t agree more, and encourage you to continue to diplomatically set the example for those who might appear ‘above’ rendering honors to the anthem and flag.

To educate those who may have missed it, we now play Reveille at 7 a.m., the national anthem at 5:30 p.m., and Taps at 10 p.m.

Since Reveille and Taps are not part of official ceremonies, you may proceed about your business. However, when the anthem is played, it is appropriate to face in the direction of the flag and salute (in uniform) or place your hand over your heart if in civilian attire.; when driving, it is appropriate to stop until the music ends—we’ll even temporarily halt traffic flow through our gates during the anthem.

Please continue to spread the word and educate those who—perhaps from simple ignorance—don’t follow these traditions.



Space Observer

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A Moment in Time: July



■ On July 18, 1914, the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps was created by Congress. Sixty officers and students, and 260 enlisted men were authorized.

■ On July 13-21, 1921, in a series of tests off the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, Army airplanes from Langley Field, Va., sink three ships, including the captured German battleship Ostfriesland, demonstrating the vulnerability of naval craft to aerial attack.

Information courtesy of Staff Sgt. Trisha Morgan, 21st Space Wing History Office

New fire department opens for business

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Fewer than 18 months separated the new Peterson Air Force Base fire station groundbreaking and ribbon-cutting ceremonies, on July 2. It culminated more than two decades of hopes and plans, according to Assistant Fire Chief Cindy Litteral.

Litteral, an airman basic here in 1979, recalls original thoughts and plans for a new fire station, that for budget and other reasons, never seemed to pan out.

Watching from the dingy, cramped flightline facility (one of six buildings where fire department personnel once worked), as the majestic 32,000-square-foot structure rose from the ground, was like watching a dream come true for Litteral.

Of the myriad of firefighters over the years who have shared her dream, she alone remains to see the dream come true for a facility that exceeds every expectation.

How appropriate, that Litteral was the acting chief when the final pavement was poured, furnishings installed, and landscaping completed.

The first week of August, the fire department veteran will pass the keys to the new station chief, Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Coleman.

Those keys open the doors to a \$6.9 million facility, the likes of which most of its new residents couldn't have begun to imagine.

The new station combines both function and form, and includes sleeping quarters for 24 firefighters (double the size of their previous quarters); a separate storage facility for their bunkers (their individual firefighting gear); multi-vehicle parking bays; separate maintenance facilities for vehicles,



Photo by 1st Lt. Mike Andrews

Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st Space Wing Commander (center right), and Airman Chris Dindl, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron (center left), cut the ribbon on the new fire station.

firefighting equipment, breathing apparatus and more; a state-of-the-art classroom and training area; a \$70 thousand gym and sauna; recreation and entertainment areas and equipment; a professional-sized, fully-outfitted kitchen and dining area; and a television room with 10 lounge chairs.

In addition, and perhaps more important, all aspects of the firefighting business are now located in one building, simplifying mission accomplishment and improving morale and interaction among fire department members,

Litteral explained.

Although the amenities in the new station may seem in extra to some, according to Litteral, it's important for the firefighters who don't just work in the building, but who eat, sleep, study and live there.

"This is their home," she said, "and they need to feel comfortable and happy here or they won't be effective on the job."

After two-plus decades of wishing and planning, how did funding and approval for the new station come

to pass? According to Litteral, Chief Ernest Lykins, a former fire chief (now retired), pushed for years to get funding, and solicited support from Colorado Congressman Joel Hefley.

Thanks in large part to Hefley's support, the funding was approved.

Participants in the ceremony included 21st Space Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st Support Group Commander Col. Mike Selva, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Commander Lt. Col. William Valenti, and Litteral.



Photo by 1st Lt. Mike Andrews

The Fire Department Honor Guard prepares to post the colors.



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

The old fire department was reduced to rubble a matter of days after the members of the fire department moved into their new building.



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Cindy Litteral, Assistant Fire Chief, checks the oxygen flow on a respirator.



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Litteral talks to a firefighter with the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron in the kitchen of the new fire department.



SPACE OBSERVER SURVEY

Here’s your opportunity to tell the newspaper staff what you like and dislike about the *Space Observer*. This survey is designed to help the staff include information you want to see in the paper.

Log on to http://www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_index.htm

For more information on the survey, call Staff Sgt. Josh Clendenen at 556-4351.

KIDS ADVENTURE DAY

The Armed Services YMCA is having a Kids Adventure Day, Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Kids planning to attend should bring a sack lunch. The event costs \$6.50, and is open to military families only.

Call 622-9622 for more information or to make your child’s reservation.

ROAD CLOSURES

Hamilton Avenue from Peterson Boulevard to the East Gate, and Suffolk Street from Duluth to Hamilton Avenues will be closed Monday-July 26 for repairs.

For more information, call Brian Hub at 556-6503.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Due to severe drought conditions, Peterson Air Force Base and Colorado Springs are in Stage II water

restrictions.

During Stage II, residents should water their lawns in the early morning or late evening only. If you live in an even-numbered house, you may water on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday. Odd-numbered houses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Watering is not permitted Mondays, and water use will be closely monitored.

Also during Stage II, the car wash will be closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

If Phase III is implemented, the car wash will be closed.

Watch the base marquees, the Commander’s Access Channel, and the *Space Observer* for the latest water restriction stages and changes.

TAXIS AND FOOD DELIVERY

The 21st Security Forces Squadron has developed a process to allow local city bus routes, taxis and food delivery drivers on base.

For a delivery, provide the driver with an accurate phone number so the entry controller can call you when the food is at the gate. Once the delivery is verified, the driver will be allowed on base. If you are unreachable, the delivery will be turned away.

All taxis entering base will be searched.

For details, call Security Forces at 556-4000.

ALS OPENING

The Peterson Air Force Base Airman Leadership School has a job opening.

The school is accepting applications for a Flight Chief. Applicants must be at least a master sergeant with an associate’s degree or the ability to finish one within a year. Applications will be accepted through Aug. 15.

For more information or to find out what to include in the application package, call Master Sgt. Joey Quiroz at 556-7737 or Tech. Sgt. Kevin Allen at 556-4940.

NCO ACADEMY OPENING

The Peterson Air Force Base Noncommissioned Officer Academy is accepting applications for instructors.

Applicants must be at least technical sergeants, meet Air Force weight standards, have an associate degree, and have completed the NCO Academy course.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Rosemarie Stange at 556-1993

SENIOR NCO WORKSHOP

There will be a two-day senior noncommissioned officer workshop Aug. 8-9, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the Enlisted Club.

For more information or to schedule attendance, call Master Sgt. Kristin Clark at 556-8474.

EMERGENCY LIGHTS

The 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight has moved into its new building, which is now fully operational.

Among the new amenities the fire department has are emergency lights placed in different locations around the building.

The lights notify drivers and pedestrians when emergency vehicles respond to a call.

The 21st CES needs base members to suggest ways to make the lights more noticable. For more information on the lights or to make a suggestion, call 556-7774 or 556-4242.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GAMES

Volunteers are needed for a variety of duties in support of the Rocky Mountain State Games, which are scheduled for Aug. 2-4.

To volunteer, call 634-7333, extension 1009.

FREE MASSAGE THERAPY

Stop by the Health and Wellness Center or the Sports and Fitness Center main desk and ask for an entry ticket.

Lucky winners will be notified the week of July 22, and their free massage will be scheduled when they are contacted.

For more information, contact Maj. Scott Guthland at the HAWC, 556-6663.



At the
Base
Chapel



Protestant
Liturgical Worship,
8:15 a.m.
Traditional Sunday Worship,
11 a.m.
Gospel Services, 12:30 p.m.

Catholic
Weekday Mass, 11:35 a.m.
Saturdays, 5 p.m.
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
Reconciliation
Saturdays, 4 p.m.

Religious Education
Sunday programs
resume after
Labor Day

**For more
information
Call the chapel at
556-4442 for available
chapel programs.

News

One SMILE eases transitions

By Christie Bond
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Medical inprocessing for Peterson Complex newcomers is now held in conjunction with the mandatory Right Start briefing, streamlining the process for active-duty people and their families.

One SMILE, or One Stop Medical Inprocessing, Learning and Education, is a program designed to introduce incoming families to available medical services and integrate them into the military health system at the 810th Medical Operations Squadron. It's an easy way to get registered in the medical system here.

For the convenience of the member, One SMILE is held on the same days as Right Start briefings.

Right Start is held in the morning and One SMILE in the afternoon. This allows people to set aside one full day for their mandatory inprocessing appointments instead of several half-days.

One SMILE accomplishes a number of things in

one convenient stop. Newcomers are introduced to base medical facilities and programs and policies, such as the appointment process.

It allows medical personnel to identify the health status of all family members, such as current or ongoing medical problems and preventative health care needs.

The program also serves as a forum to teach patients about the importance and aspects of preventative health care.

The "Take Care of Yourself" book is given to families who do not already have one along with instructions on how to use it.

The program began in May and has been well-received, said Master Sgt. Jacqueline Goodman, Superintendent, Health Services Administration.

"We're improving it every time," said Goodman. "It's working out really well."

Spouses are strongly encouraged to attend, since much of the medical information is directly applicable to them.

For more information on the program, call Goodman or Maj. Shannon Lynch at 556-1010.

Diseases transmitted by Tick bites can be easily prevented

Taking precautions can help reduce tick-born disease

By 2nd Lt. Jose Diaz
Public Health Programs Chief

Summer is finally here, and with the summer comes good weather, family picnics, camping, mosquitos, ants, and especially, ticks.

Ticks transmit more diseases in the United States than any other insect or arachnid. The most common illness transmitted by ticks in the Rocky Mountain region is Colorado Tick Fever.

Symptoms of this illness include fever, chills, fatigue, headache, muscle ache, and sometimes a skin rash. However, taking simple precautions while spending time outdoors can prevent tick-borne diseases.

Some of those precautions are as follows:

■ Be aware of your environment. Ticks tend to be found in areas with high grass and low-brush vegetation.

■ Stay on hiking trails to avoid brushing against tall grass.

■ Wear light colored clothing, so it is easy to see them. Also, wear long pants and tuck the legs into your socks or boots.

■ Apply insect repellent, especially on ankles and legs.

■ Usually, you cannot feel when the tick is in the act of biting, so inspect your body and clothing every few hours if you are in a high-tick area.

■ Ask another person to check the parts of your body that you cannot see, such as the back of the neck.

If you find a tick, remove it promptly.

It takes several hours of feeding before a tick can transmit an illness; therefore, quick

removal can prevent the transmission of disease.

Ticks should be removed with tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to the point of attachment as possible, and pull gently on the tick until it comes loose.

If tweezers are not available, remove it with your fingers, but use tissue paper to avoid touching the tick. Be careful not to crush the tick on your body or between your fingers.

After removing the tick, wash your hands and the bite area with soap and water.

Burning the tick or smothering it with vaseline to get it out is not recommended.

Both of these methods can cause the tick to regurgitate the contents of its gut into your blood stream. Another problem with burning a tick out is that burning may cause the tick to explode.

For more information on ticks or tick-born disease, call the Peterson Air Force Base Public Health Office at 556-1225.





Tickets and new cars await speeders

By 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The cops at Peterson are now enforcing speeding and carrying out their mission in style.

21st Space Wing Security Forces recently purchased four new Ford Crown Victorias to support their law enforcement missions.

The new cars are well-equipped for law enforcement. Each has a radio system with key-operated digital screens mounted inside; eight-cylinder engines; bullet-resistant, shatter-proof glass; and back seats designed to prevent people from hiding things like weapons or drugs.

The biggest violation security forces see on base is

speeding.

“We give anywhere from five to 30 tickets a day,” said Staff Sgt. Tony Jarrell, 21st Security Forces Squadron.

Most of the speeding tickets are issued at the intersections of Stuart Avenue and Peterson Boulevard, and Selfridge and McGuire Streets.

“Speeding is going to be enforced even more, especially since it’s summertime and kids are out playing,” he said.

The housing areas speed limit is 15 mph. At the Base Exchange and Commissary, the speed limit is 5 mph, and the speed limit on the rest of the base is 30 mph, unless otherwise posted.

Security Forces have set up speed meters in residential areas and in parking lots to show people how fast they’re going. Patrolmen are also



Photos by Mike Brown

The 21st Security Forces Squadron recently purchased four Ford Crown Victorias to add to its fleet. The new cars are a step up from the older models.

positioned around base, checking speeds. When drivers get pulled over for speeding, they will be ticketed using Form 1408, which is similar to getting a ticket off base.

The ticketing process involves a point system. Anyone getting six points within six months will have their base driving privileges suspended for a year.

Also, if a driver accumulates nine points in 18-months, driving privileges will be suspended for a year.

Points will be added when drivers illegally park, fail to stop at crosswalks or stop signs, and other violations.

While Security Forces will still maintain their older cars, the need for newer cars was evident.

“We needed newer cars with fewer miles,” Jarrell said. “The old cars were used 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They had a lot of miles, and the technology was outdated.”

Only two of the new cars in the Crown Victoria fleet are currently operational.

The other two will arrive after a local auto shop finishes outfitting them.



Airman 1st Class Chase Funke, 21st Security Forces Squadron, checks the speed of on-coming traffic.

“Speeding is going to be enforced even more, especially since it’s summertime and kids are out playing.”

Staff Sgt. Tony Jarrell
21st Security Forces Squadron

Blotter

The following real-life events with real individuals from around the Peterson Complex are presented to inform you of crimes, accidents, and events occurring on our base.

The following entries were taken from the 21st Security Forces Squadron Police Blotter for the week ending July 5:

Fleeing feline - June 28

A base housing resident called the Security Forces Desk to let them know she had captured a stray cat.

Security Forces responded and took the mischievous mammal into custody until an Animal Control

Officer could come and get the flighty feline.

Medical response - June 29

A housing resident called Security Forces when their child was breaking out in hives and had redness in the eyes.

Security Forces notified the fire department and American Medical Response, who transported the child to Memorial Hospital.

Half-ton heist - June 29

A civilian employee of Peterson notified Security Forces his half-ton pick-up truck had been stolen from his off-base home.

The incident is still under investigation by local authorities.

911 response - June 30

Security Forces responded to the West Gate when an Army member was having an asthma attack.

The fire department and American Medical Response responded to the scene as well.

The soldier was taken to Evans Army Hospital for treatment.

Open season - July 1

Security Forces responded to reports of a vehicle that had been broken into.

They found the terribly trusting owner of the vehicle had left it unlocked with the windows down, inviting a thug to purloin the goods.

We've got to stop meeting like this - July 2

Security Forces responded to a minor fender-bender at Ent Avenue and Goodfellow Avenue.

The driver of vehicle A yielded

to crossing traffic when he was bonked from behind by vehicle B.

The driver of vehicle B was issued a citation for—hello?—inattention to driving.

Dummy Driver – July 2

A Security Forces driver's license check at the West Gate revealed a motorist's driver's license was suspended.

Piling on, the hooligan had no insurance. To add to his ignorance quotient, there was also a Bench Warrant for failure to appear.

Colorado Springs Police Department was contacted, arrived on scene, and issued the loony locomotor a summons for driving on a suspended license and no proof of insurance.

The witless wheeler was released to CSPD for processing.

See **BLOTTER**, Page 13

OPERATION ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

14 Pete Complex members get busted for illegal drug use

By Staff Sgt.
Josh Clendenen
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The last of 15 Pete Complex members accused of illicit drug use were sentenced at the end of June here.

The combined two-year investigation and prosecution, nicknamed "Operation Rocky Mountain High," headed up by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 803 and the 21st Space Wing Legal Office, began when investigators received reports from the co-workers of the accused airmen.

The co-workers claimed the airmen were acting suspiciously, which prompted OSI to launch an investigation.

During the investigation, OSI agents discovered some of the airmen acting suspiciously had also smoked pot, taken cat tranquilizers, LSD, Ecstasy, and used cocaine.

The agents also found some of the airmen were selling the drugs and taking them.

The airmen and their sentences are as follows:

■ Airman Prince E. Goodridge, 721st Security Forces Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of LSD and Ecstasy, introduction of

Ecstasy and marijuana, larceny of personal property from multiple dorm rooms, conspiracy to commit larceny, housebreaking and burglary.

Goodridge received a bad conduct discharge, three years confinement, total forfeitures of all pay and allowances, and reduction in grade to E-1.

■ Senior Airman Jason A. Huchel, 721st Civil Engineer Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy, LSD, and marijuana, introduction with intent to distribute Ecstasy, LSD and Ketamine, distribution of Ecstasy and LSD, and introduction with intent to distribute

Ecstasy and LSD.

Huchel received a dishonorable discharge, nine months confinement, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman Basic Sonya Garcia, 850th Communications Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy and LSD.

Garcia received a bad conduct discharge, six months confinement, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman 1st Class Colleen M. Hagen, 1st Space Control Squadron, was charged

with wrongful use of marijuana and possession of LSD.

Hagen received nine months confinement, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman 1st Class Cameron S. Harston, 721st Communications Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of marijuana, possession of Ecstasy, and writing two bad checks on base.

Harston received five months confinement, forfeiture of \$900 for five months and reduction to E-1.

See **BUSTED**, Page 13

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or 800-423-USAF





Around the Air Force

Deployed Chapel: Unconditional service, home away from home

By Airman 1st Class
Tarkan Dospil

379th Air Expeditionary Wing

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

— Deployments can be difficult. Families are separated and jobs are disrupted.

For some, the Arabian Desert can seem like a desolate place with scorching temperatures. But in the midst of loneliness and despair, a light shines from a small tent — a safe haven that welcomes those

lost or fearful.

“We’re here to help relieve some of the stress from a deployment and facilitate the freedom of religious expression,” said Chap. (Lt. Col.) Daniel L. Figueroa, senior chaplain for the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. “We keep a pulse on how things are going in the camp.”

The chapel’s primary mission is to cushion Operation Enduring Freedom war fighters’ spiritual and emo-

tional needs.

Figueroa and his four-person staff accomplish this by catering to the first constitutional amendment: freedom of religious expression.

“Wars have been fought to defend that freedom,” Figueroa said. “As a nation, we can be proud that we have that freedom and tolerance; whereas in some countries you’re forced to practice one way.”

At Al Udeid, the chapel has found success in offering a place for that freedom.

“We average about 200 people for our services,” said Figueroa. “Not too bad for a small deployed chapel.”

The various services generally last 30 minutes to an hour, and are offered throughout the week.

The chapel staff relies heavily on volunteers in music ministry, Bible study, leadership and scripture reading. Volunteers assist at the altar, and even provide rides to services at other military sites.

“We depend heavily upon members of the congregation who provide voluntary assistance to meet various needs in conjunction with our services,” said Chap. (Capt.) John Echert. “With most troops on a 90-day rotation, we face the same challenge with continuity in volunteers as units face with such a massive change-over. But with each rotation, new volunteers can always come forward,” he said.

Along with religious services, professional counseling is available to help people experiencing conflicts with home, emotional concerns, or who simply want someone to talk to. Counseling services are available by appointment; or a walk-in basis, and are kept strictly confidential.

Figueroa said the number of people seeking personal counseling is growing.

“Business has been brisk,” said Figueroa, who is deployed from Air Force Space Command’s command chapel staff at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. “People tend to introspect more. They have more time to think, so they have a tendency to seek more spiritual guidance, especially when the threat is higher.”

The chapel even has a choir for those who need a little “soul music.”

“There is a praise team, which meets Sunday nights,” said Figueroa. “To me, music is an integral part of religious

expression.”

The team is formed regardless of rank or gender, and anyone with a taste for tunes is welcome.

Though religious service and personal counseling is typical of most Air Force chapels, Figueroa said being in a deployed environment makes the experience quite different.

“I think deployments are where the real Air Force ministry takes place, because I am able to devote more time to it,” he said. “We don’t have to do a lot of the phone calls and (the) paperwork that usually needs to be done at a normal chapel. This allows us to be free with the people and visit. Since we endure the same stressors they do, it’s like a big family.”

Echert, deployed from the 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota Air National Guard, is the sole Guard member on the team.

He said he’s enjoying the experience and feels deployments are where the chapel is a crucial entity.

“It’s often on deployments and (during) war that the presence of chaplains becomes most needed,” Echert said. “We serve the morale and spiritual needs of everyone, regardless of their religious beliefs.”

Every good chaplain has a great assistant and Staff Sgt. Dustin Stull, 30th Space Wing, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., is one of those helping hands. Stull said the most gratifying part of the deployment experience is doing bare-bones military duty.

“This is where the rubber meets the road,” he said. “This is why we’re in the Air Force. This environment presents a challenge for me. People have to deal with a lot of stressful things out here, and we’re here to help.”

Volunteers help keep the chapel’s light burning, said Figueroa, “We’ll leave the light on for you.”



544th IOG to change command

Col. Martin Neubauer will relinquish command of the 544th Information Operations Group to Col. Lance J. Schultz in a change of command ceremony 10a.m., Monday, at the Peterson Air Park.

Neubauer will head to Goodfellow Air Force Base,

Texas, to take command of the 17th Training Wing.

Schultz is coming from Headquarters, United States Air Force, Pentagon, where he was Chief, Information Superiority Division for the Directorate of Programs.

(Information courtesy of the 544th Information Operations Group)

A T Y O U R S E R V I C E

Car seats available at loan closet

By 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Infants and young children will be assured safer car trips with Peterson's newest donation from the Government Employees Insurance Company.

GEICO donated eight infant/toddler car restraint seats to the Family Support Center Loan Closet. In the past few years, the United Services Automobile Association has also donated child safety restraint seats.

"Traffic crashes, not disease, are the leading cause of death among young children," said Richard Kidd, former Sergeant Major of the Army, and now the Assistant Vice President of Military Services at GEICO. "So child car restraints are just as important as vaccinations in assuring a child's health. We believe that the availability of the seats will encourage parents to take responsibility for protecting their young children against highway death or injury."

In fact, Monday three adults were killed outside of Castle Rock and a toddler survived, because she was restrained in a child safety seat, recalled Angie Fields, Relocation Assistant Specialist.

According to the family center, a new Colorado law will be in effect soon that states children eight and under must be in a restraint street at all times while traveling in an automobile.

"Children are not little adults, they really need the help of restraint," said Fields. "We try to make our services available to as many people as we can."

Parents may borrow the infant/toddler seat for a two-three month period. A contract must be filled out, which outlines the responsibilities



Jolene O'Connell, a volunteer at the loan closet, reaches for a car seat donated by GEICO.

for proper use and care of the seats.

According to the Family Support Center, parents still need to remember a few essential things. The rear seat is the safest place for children of all ages. Infants should never be carried in the front seat of a car or truck with a passenger side air bag. Infants and very young children should always be in child safety seats, and young children need to be correctly buckled using a booster seat.

This information and more can be found in information packets from the loan closet. Loan closet volunteers are also available to show parents how to correctly use child safety seats.

"Safety has come a long way for child restraint seats," said Jolene O'Connell Family Services volunteer. "Nowadays, manufacturers put a lot of detail into child seats, but parents still must be aware of the dangers posed by not using safety seats."

According to the Colorado Department of Transportation, four out of five car seats are used incorrectly.

DOT suggests that infants up to 12 months old and at least 20 pounds should be in rear-facing car seats. Children over one year old and between 20 and 40 pounds can be in forward-facing car seats. Children 4-8 years old and between 40-80 pounds should be in booster seats. Usually children older than 8 and more than 80 pounds can fit in lap/shoulder belts.

Currently, the loan closet has about 30 seats including infant/toddler, convertible and booster seats.

The seats are available on a first-come first-served basis to all members of the military, including civilians. Active duty members have first priority.

For more information, call the family services loan closet at 556-9264.

(Information courtesy of GEICO)

This Week

Today

- PREP couples' communication, 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Armed Services YMCA.
- 5K fun run, 11:30 a.m., at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

Saturday

- Better ball championship, at the Silver Spruce Golf Course. Call to register.
- Women's self defense class, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Fitness Center.

Monday

- Mothers on the move exercise group. Call the Family Advocacy Center for times and locations.
- UNISERV TSP briefing, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Wednesday

- Stress management, 2:30-4 p.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

Thursday

- Career orientation, 8 a.m.-noon, at the Family Support Center.
- Play group, 10:30 a.m.-noon, at the chapel.
- Anger management, 2-4 p.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

July 19

- 5K fun run, 11:30 a.m., at Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

Helpful Numbers

- Family Advocacy 556-8943
- Education Center 556-4064
- Library 556-7462
- Community Center 556-7671
- Aquatics Center 556-4608
- Fitness Center 556-4462
- Officers' Club 556-4181
- Enlisted Club 556-4194
- Youth Center 556-7220
- Family Support 556-6141
- Red Cross 556-9201
- Aragon Menu Line 556-4782
- Outdoor Recreation 556-4487
- Golf Course 556-7810

This Week

SERVICES CALENDARS

At the Officers' Club	July 14 -- Sunday brunch, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	July 20-- Gourmet dinner night. Reservations required	July 26-- Live Maine lobster night. Reservations required.	August 14-- Mongolian barbecue, 6-8 p.m.
At the Enlisted Club	July 17-- Membership night, 5-7 p.m.	July 18-- Mongolian barbecue, 5-7 p.m.	July 24-- Oriental food buffet, 5-7 p.m., \$5.95 for members	July 31-- Country buffet, 5-7 p.m., \$5.95 for members.
At Outdoor Recreation	July 14-- Royal Gorge rafting trip. Call for reservations.	July 20-- Royal Gorge rafting trip. Call for reservations.	July 21-- Royal Gorge rafting trip. Call for reservations.	July 27-- Royal Gorge rafting trip. Call for reservations.



Higher rank means more respect, greater responsibilities

By Chief Master Sgt. Jay Snead
U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Do you feel there are two distinct sets of rules for airmen and noncommissioned officers or officers and enlisted? Have you reached the conclusion that when some people reach “the top,” “the big time,” or “the pinnacle,” they operate under a different set of rules than those below them?

At first glance, you might say a chief master sergeant or senior NCO might have some perceived privileges not accorded the rank and file, like exclusion from base details or, dare I say it, a reserved parking space.

We even have an acronym for it - RHIP - rank has its privileges. We all know individuals who can quickly point out or tell anyone within earshot who has more than whom and the unfairness of it all.

Conversely, those privileged to hold higher rank, can quickly point out that RHIP could also stand for rank has its problems.

These so called privileges may be

considered compensation for coping with the many often-forgotten problems leaders face on a daily basis. However, there is one thing all parties share equally -- responsibility.

The problems and privileges of rank don't excuse leaders from meeting the same standards they hold out for the people who aren't as far up the ladder. Rank should not excuse leaders to operate under a different set of rules.

So today, I would like to introduce RHIR or rank has its responsibilities. In simple terms, it's practicing what you preach.

There are two responsibilities I feel are important.

■ RHIR 101: The responsibility to not only set the example, but be the example. You can talk until you are blue in the face about attitude, teamwork, adherence to policies and standards, but at the end of the day people won't judge you by what you say, but by what you do.

You can have rank and privileges, but without your adherence to the same standards expected of others, you won't have influence over them, and you can't have success. The office,

section, squadron or group consciously or unconsciously mirrors their leaders and their standards. People will always perceive leadership in their own terms. Make sure it's the right perception.

■ RHIR 102: The responsibility of service before self, which is commonly quoted, but not practiced. Ever since I can remember, we have been told we should complete Professional Military Education to get promoted.

We should get a Community College of the Air Force degree to get promoted. We should do community service or join the Top 3 to get promoted. Unfortunately, many people do these things for just that reason -- to get promoted.

The people who do these things to get promoted are square fillers, plain and simple. They look real good on paper, but when it comes time to lead or make decisions, they fall short of the mark. By serving themselves, they sadly serve no one. The troops know the difference between solid and weak Senior NCO leadership and the difference between E-9s and Chiefs ... just ask them.

The fact is, we have a responsi-

bility to attend PME, because it provides the opportunity to learn beyond the boundaries of our career field and develop a thorough understanding of the Air Force.

We should get CCAF degrees, because it validates out professional expertise and competence. We should do community service to give back, help our fellow man and remain humble.

We should be a member of the Top 3 or Chiefs' Group, because we function as a team and these organizations represent teamwork. We need to grasp that by completing PME, CCAF and selflessly serving, we are developing the qualities of the type of leader we will be tomorrow.

I consider it a privilege and an honor to be a chief master sergeant in the best Air and Space Force in the world. I feel privileged to try to uphold the time honored tradition of those enior NCOs who laid the foundation we walk on.

I also know with privilege comes the daunting responsibility to practice what I preach. As Benjamin Franklin said, “A good example is always the best sermon.”



American patriotism comes in many different forms

By Lt. Col.
Thomas P. Spellman
27th Services Squadron

American citizens are not the only ones who support and defend our country.

The Air Force currently has more than 2,500 registered immigrant aliens performing service for our country.

Title 8 of the United States Code allows individuals

who have served in the armed services for three years to become naturalized citizens, providing they meet all the other criteria for citizenship: good moral character, integrity, the ability to read, write and speak English, a basic knowledge of civics, and a commitment to the principles of the US Constitution.

In January 2000, the Department of Defense initiat-

ed a program with the Immigration and Naturalization Service to streamline the processing of citizenship applications for immigrant aliens serving in the US armed forces.

The goal is to reduce processing time from two years to as little as four months.

Of the more than 2,500 immigrant aliens in the Air Force, 11 are in my squadron.

They come from Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines and South Africa.

Several of these members of my squadron are processing applications to become naturalized citizens, and a few others will do so once they meet the three-year service requirement.

They will be required to take an oath of allegiance where they will swear to

renounce all foreign allegiances and to support and defend the principles of the U.S. Constitution.

While these 11 airmen in my squadron are not yet citizens, there is no doubt they are committed to supporting and defending our country.

Let's not forget patriotism comes in many forms.

(Courtesy of ACC News Service)



BUSTED: OSI nails drug-abusing airmen in sting

From Page 7

■ Airman 1st Class Matthew A. Feller, 21st Communications Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy and possession of LSD.

Feller received 60 days hard labor without confinement, 60 days restriction, forfeiture of \$300 for three months and reduction to E-2.

■ Airman Lisa A. Hickenbottom, 850th Communications Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy and LSD.

Hickenbottom received a bad conduct discharge, 10 months confinement, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman Basic Christopher D. Deisher, 721st Security Force Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy, marijuana, Xanax and Valium, and violating a no-

contact order.

Deisher received a bad conduct discharge, 10 months confinement, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

■ Airman 1st Class Douglas P. Creighton, 721st Communications Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of marijuana and communicating a threat.

Creighton received a bad conduct discharge, three months confinement and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman Basic Mark G. White, 1st Space Control Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy, LSD and marijuana, and failure to go.

White received a bad conduct discharge and seven months confinement.

■ Airman John C. Butts, 721st Civil Engineer Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy, LSD and marijuana, and distribution of Ecstasy.

Butts received a bad conduct discharge, eight months

confinement and reduction to E-1.

■ Airman 1st Class Richard LeBron, 721st Communications Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of Ecstasy and distribution of Ecstasy.

LeBron received six months confinement, forfeiture of \$250 for six months and reductions to E-1.

■ Airman 1st Class Christopher W. Randazzo, 721st Security Forces Squadron, was charged with wrongful possession of Ecstasy and distribution of Ecstasy.

Randazzo received a bad conduct discharge and one year confinement.

During the prosecutions of Operation Rocky Mountain High, one servicemember was acquitted of all charges.

The Peterson Air Force Base Legal Office also prosecuted two other courts martial not related to Operation Rocky Mountain High.

They were:

The building manager was called out to secure the door.

An interior search of the facility found everything in order.

Designated driver does duty, drives drunk, destination dorm- July 4

A civilian, volunteering to drive an intoxicated airman home, drove to the Main Gate where he was stopped by Security Forces. The civilian told the officers



■ Airman Basic Luis R. McLaughlin, 21st Security Forces Squadron, was charged with failure to go to urinalysis testing, wrongful use of cocaine and marijuana, distribution of cocaine and marijuana and underage drinking.

McLaughlin received a bad conduct discharge, 17 months confinement, and total forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

■ Airman 1st Class Kimberly Flores, 21st Security Forces Squadron, was charged with wrongful use of cocaine.

Flores received a bad conduct discharge, one month confinement and reduction to E-1.

Rocky Mountain High recap

- Convictions: 14
- Acquittals: 1
- Charges: Illegal drug use, selling drugs, threats, and bad checks.
- Types of drugs: Ecstasy, marijuana, cocaine, Xanax, Valium, LSD, and Ketamine

Blotter

Off base felony – July 4

Security Forces assisted local authorities when they were notified of an off-base domestic disturbance involving a weapon.

The alleged assaulter

was taken into custody and turned over to the Pueblo County Sheriff Department.

Insecure building – July 4

A door to the Clinic was found unsecured by a routine patrol check.



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556-4351 or by e-mailing us at
space.observer@peterson.af.mil

he was taking the inebriated airman home.

The officers courteously escorted the driver to the dorms and then off base, and also ensured the plowed passenger had a friend to care for her during the night.

No license? Well, duh! - July 5

A civilian was stopped on base for failure to obey a stop sign.

Not only did he run the stop sign, but when the officer ran this jockey's license,

it came back as cancelled.

The offender was dismounted from his steed and corralled into custody.

***Editor's note: Although the Space Observer staff may make light of some Blotter entries, the intent is to call attention to our security and law enforcement concerns.*

However, rest assured, our professional Security Forces treat each incident seriously.



Wing gears up for annual Sports Day in August

By Mike Brown
[21st Space Wing Public Affairs](#)

Peterson's annual Sports and Field Day, hosted by the 21st Services Squadron, is coming up again Aug. 14.

The day will include more than 34 sporting events, which will take place across base. The sports range from dominoes and darts to basketball and 10K bike races.

Many of the events will be held in and around the fitness center, except for some events that can't be held there such as golf, bowling, and skeet shooting.

Most of the events are free to competitors. However, competitors will have to pay for sports that regularly charge fees, such as skeet shooting, bowling, and golf.

People who are planning to participate in or attend the events during the day don't need to worry about bringing a lunch, because there will be a free barbeque from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. at the pavillion.

"Sports and Field day is meant to be a fun day for the base and its personnel, but is also designed to increase morale and to bring a feeling of pride, unity, and teamwork on base through the various com-

petitions," said Randall Greenfield, Director of Outdoor Recreation.

It takes many hours and hundreds of people to coordinate Sports Day, according to Greenfield. Sports representatives from numerous squadrons on base have volunteered to run some of the events.

However, there are still four events which need volunteers to run them. They include basketball, tennis, table tennis, and racquetball.

Event monitors have to make sure teams get started on time, keep track of scores and winners, help with rules interpretations, and perform other

administrative duties.

By volunteering to run and monitor an event, you earn one point toward your unit's team score in the overall competition. There are three categories of competitors -- large, medium, and small.

If you have 29 or less participants, you're in the small unit category, 30-74 you're in the medium unit category, and more than 75 and you're in the large unit category.

All base squadrons compete for the commander's trophy. A squadron can win the trophy by earning the points via the number of squadron members who participate in an event.

With everyone's help and participation, this year's Sports and Field day is sure to be a great success, said Greenfield.

Sports Day is a day for

fun and competition between all the squadrons on base. Anybody participating in Sports and Field day, whether they are competitors, volunteers, or spectators, do not have to report to work that day. Remember, it's not an official down day unless you are a participant, so you can't just stay home.

Anyone can sign up and participate in the events, either as competitors or volunteers. Those interested need to get in touch with their unit sports representative.

All competition entries must be submitted no later than Aug. 2 so the brackets can be drawn up, times scheduled, and competitors notified.

If you are interested in being a monitor for one of the events, contact Greenfield at 556-4867.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout

Last year, many runners and walkers took to the street during Sports Day for the 5K trek.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jessica Sanchez

Heidi Torres, 810th Medical Group, enjoys a free lunch during last year's wing Sports Day.

Have a sports story idea?
Let us know by calling us at
556-4351 or by e-mail at
space.observer@peterson.af.mil